



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **The Delray Beach Winter GreenMarket will Accept SNAP**

DELRAY BEACH, FLA (December 27, 2021) – In an effort to help local community members enjoy a better quality of life through healthy meal options, the Delray Beach GreenMarket vendors will be accepting SNAP this season, beginning January 8, 2022.

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, is the nation's most important anti-hunger program. SNAP provides important nutritional support for low-wage working families, low-income seniors, and people with disabilities living on fixed incomes, and other individuals and households in need. "Working with SNAP was an ideal partnership for the CRA GreenMarket Project. I'm looking forward to reaching more people in the CRA district to provide fresh food options and in walking distance to areas that need access the most," said Renée Jadusingh, Executive Director of the Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA).

"The stated purpose of the SNAP program is to help individuals in need afford a healthier diet," said Alexina Jeannite, Community Engagement Director for the CRA. "While the program mainly serves low-income families, the elderly, and people with disabilities, it also serves as an economic stimulus tool to help protect families from hardship and hunger during times of crisis like temporary unemployment due to economic downturn. The current pandemic is another great example of how SNAP resources have and can be a safety net tool to help keep families and individuals afloat in times of crisis."

With areas within the CRA District considered as food deserts, the benefits of having SNAP at the GreenMarket are manifold. It's a local, convenient, and affordable solution that ensures residents have access to fresh and healthy food options much closer to home. The program will also help the more than 30 eligible vendors reach a greater customer base who can benefit from offerings of fresh produce, fruits, vegetables, meat, food-producing plants, and other unique food products.

"While there are a number of farmers markets open during what is considered the 'season' in Palm Beach County, there are currently only two farmers markets open during the summer months in Palm Beach County – the Delray Beach GreenMarket is one of them," according to Lori Nolan, the GreenMarket Manager. "The GreenMarket's nearly year-round availability helps to ensure more residents, Delray Beach and beyond, have access to fresh, healthy, and affordable food." Furthermore, while there are types of market outlets that take SNAP, the Delray Beach GreenMarket will be the first Green Market in Palm Beach County to accept SNAP. The CRA's ability and vision to combine its essential projects and programs like the GreenMarket, Freebee, and SNAP enhances its portfolio of mutually supportive activities to be of great benefit to the community as a whole.

Coming in the 2022 GreenMarket season, local community members will be able to take advantage of the healthy options the GreenMarket offers for themselves and their families. The official launch date of SNAP acceptance at the Delray Beach GreenMarket is January 8th, 2022.

The Delray Beach GreenMarket is located on the front lawn of the Cornell Museum at Old School Square, at the corner of Atlantic Avenue and Swinton Avenue and is open from October to May on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please visit [www.delraycra.org](http://www.delraycra.org) or call the CRA office at (561) 276-8640 for more information and additional details about the program.